REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-7, 9, 10, 13,15-17 are pending of which Claims 1, 5-7, 10, 13, 15, and 17 have been amended. Claims 2, 3, 4, 8, 11,12, and 14 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 USC 102:

Claims 10-17 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Narita (US 6,502,990).

Narita claims and discloses a motor in which the bearing sleeve is press-fitted into a flange for support. Independent Claim 10 and 17 now claim an assembly which is adhesively bonded to a base plate after being assembled in a testable subunit. The comparable unit of Narita is press-fitted into a mounting flange at the time of manufacture and thereby eliminates the advantages of the present invention.

The press-fitting in the Narita reference results in material deformation of at least the bearing sleeve which subsequently requires machining in order to meet design tolerances. This machining adds significant overhead in the use of resources to machine the flange mounted assembly. Furthermore, if the whole assembly does not meet required tolerances, the whole assembly must be discarded. Additionally, the Narita reference teaches away from the present invention because testing the bearing assembly prior to mounting it on the base plate is pointless since the subsequent step of press fitting will

obviate the results of the testing.

In contrast to Narita, the present invention pre-manufactures the bearing-rotor assembly by machining the bearing sleeve, connecting the rotor hub to the shaft, and inserting the shaft/rotor assembly into the bearing sleeve before it is connected to the flange and/or base plate. Thus, the pre-manufactured bearing-rotor assembly is fully functional and can be tested. Furthermore, the tested bearing-rotor assembly may then be adhesively bonded to the motor base plate without using a flange and without any deformation of the bearing sleeve, which preserves the integrity of the tested bearing-rotor assembly.

Dependent claims 13, 15, and 16 depend from claim 10 are patentable for the reasons stated above without regard to the further limitations claimed.

Rejections Under 35 USC 103:

Claims 1-4, 6-9, and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as allegedly obvious in light of Narita (US 6,502,990).

Narita claims and discloses a motor in which the bearing sleeve is press-fitted into a flange for support. Independent Claim 1 now claims a method of manufacturing an assembly which is adhesively bonded to a base plate after being assembled as a testable subunit. The allegedly obvious method in light of Narita would require press-fitting the sleeve into a mounting flange at the time of manufacture and thereby eliminates the advantages of the present invention. As noted in the above arguments against the application of Narita in the anticipation rejection of Claims 10 and 17, incorporated herein by

reference, Claim 1 possesses the advantage of avoiding material deformation consequent to press-fitting the bearing sleeve into an assembly flange and the consequent expense of re-machining the sleeve to match design tolerances. Furthermore, the adhesive bonding step preserves the tested design tolerances of the assembly after it is secured to the motor baseplate.

Dependent claims 6, 7, and 9 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for the reasons stated above without regard to the further limitations claimed therein.

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as allegedly obvious in light of Narita (US 6,502,990) taken in view of Hoffman (6,656,776).

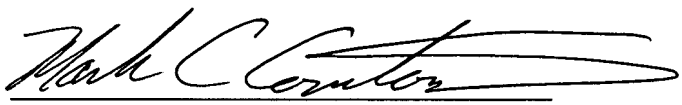
Claim 5 depends from claim 1 and for the reasons noted above is patentable without regard to the further limitations claimed therein. It is noted that the adhesive of Hoffman is used as a sealant, not as a method of fixedly mounting the assembly to the motor baseplate.

For these and other reasons, Applicants believe the application is now in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested.

The Office is requested and authorized to charge any fee associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 04-1679 to Duane Morris LLP.

The Office is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any issue relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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